10

20

25

CLAIMS

- 1. A device (1) for cleaning floors and similar surfaces, comprising a stick (2), which is connected, at a terminal portion (2a) thereof, by way of kinematic connection means (3), to a supporting means (4), which is associable with cleaning means (8), characterized in that said supporting device (4) comprises at least two arms (5), which lie along respective main longitudinal directions and are mounted so that they can rotate with respect to said stick (2) about a respective articulation axis (100) in order to pass, upon insertion of said supporting means (4) in a wringing basket (20) associated with a water containment bucket (21), from an active or extended condition, in which the respective main longitudinal directions define a working surface, to a wringing or retracted condition, in which the respective longitudinal directions of said at least two arms (5) are angularly spaced from said working surface, return means (6) being further provided which are adapted to return said supporting means (4) to the active or extended condition as a consequence of disengagement from said wringing basket (20).
- 2. The floor cleaning device (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that said at least two arms (5) comprise each a respective active face (7), which during use is arranged so as to face at least partially a portion of said cleaning means (8), the respective active faces (7) of said at least two arms (5) being arranged on said working surface in said active condition.
- 3. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said wringing basket (20) comprises at least two walls (22) having a plurality of draining openings (23), that converge toward the bottom (24) of said containment bucket (21), and form engagement walls for a respective portion of said cleaning means (8) that is associated with a respective active face (7).
- 4. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said supporting means (4) comprises

5

10

15

20

25

30

two opposite arms (5), at least one of said two arms (5) being fitted so that it can rotate, with respect to a fixed part (9), about an articulation axis (100) that is substantially perpendicular to said respective main longitudinal directions of said two arms (5).

- 5. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said containment bucket (21) is associated with a collection receptacle (30), which during use is arranged below said wringing basket (20) and is adapted to collect the liquid that passes through said plurality of draining openings (23).
- 6. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said return means (6) comprises at least one spring (10), which acts between said fixed part (9) and at least one of said at least two arms (5) or between said two arms (5), in order to keep said supporting means (4) in said active or extended condition.
- 7. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said cleaning means (8) comprises a cloth (11).
- 8. The device according to claim 8, characterized in that said cloth (11) comprises at least one continuous longitudinal portion (11a), which is arranged outside a respective longitudinal edge (5a) of said two arms (5), and a substantially transverse cut (11b), which is arranged at said articulation axis (100).
- 9. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of claims 7-8, characterized in that said cloth (11) comprises two continuous longitudinal portions (11a), which are arranged outside the longitudinal edges (5a) of said two arms (5), and a substantially U-shaped cut, which has two parallel portions (11c) arranged at said longitudinal edges (5a) and a portion (11b) for connecting said two parallel portions (11c), which is arranged at said articulation axis (100).
 - 10. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of claims

PCT/EP2004/012615

5

10

- 7-9, characterized in that said cloth (11) is a cloth made of microfiber.
- 11. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of claims 2-10, characterized in that said active faces (7) comprise means (12) for retaining said cloth (11).
- 12. The floor cleaning device (1) according to claim 11, characterized in that said retention means (12) comprises a plurality of pins (13) that protrude from said active faces (7) and have an enlarged head (13a).
- 13. The floor cleaning device (1) according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said kinematic connection means (3) comprises at least one articulation element (14) for connection between a cup-shaped element (15) that can be coupled to the end of the stick (2) and said fixed part (9).